

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DOUALA 00154 131034Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 /016 W
-----088270 131446Z /50
R 130830Z MAR 78
FM AMCONSUL DOUALA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1699
INFO AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

UNCLAS YAOUNDE 0154

E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: ASEC, OTRA
SUBJECT: UNTICKETED MARINE TRAVEL - DOUALA/YAOUNDE

1. POST UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND WHY DEPARTMENT HAS DEVELOPED NEW POLICY OF TICKETING MARINES ASSIGNED TO YAOUNDE ONLY AS FAR AS DOUALA. IN LIEU OF TICKETS FROM DOUALA TO YAOUNDE, THEY HAVE BEEN GIVEN GTR'S FOR THIS PORTION. SINCE MOST MARINES ARRIVE FROM EUROPE AND SEVEN OF EIGHT FLIGHTS FROM EUROPE ARRIVE DOUALA AFTER THE TICKET OFFICE IS CLOSED, GTR IS USELESS.

2. DURING THE THIRD WEEK OF JANUARY THREE MARINES ARRIVED WITH TICKETS READING TO DOUALA ONLY. IN THIS CASE, THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER'S WIFE WAS NOTIFIED OF THEIR PREDICAMENT ONLY 45 MINUTES BEFORE THE LAST FLIGHT OF THE DAY TO YAOUNDE DURING A PERIOD WHEN, AS USUAL, ALL HOTELS IN DOUALA WERE FULLY BOOKED. SHE USED HER PERSONAL FUNDS TO COVER THE COST OF THREE ONE WAY TICKETS TO YAOUNDE.

3. ON MARCH 9, CPL BERNARD LEVY ARRIVED DOUALA AT 2200 WITHOUT A TICKET TO YAOUNDE. THE PRINCIPAL OFFICER PAID OUT OF POCKET FOR THAT SEGMENT. CPL LEVY STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN TOLD IN WASHINGTON THAT BECAUSE IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO CONFIRM A RESERVATION FOR THE DOUALA/YAOUNDE PORTION THAT A GTR WAS ISSUED TO HIM INSTEAD.
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POST WILL BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO CONFIRM ONWARD RESERVATIONS RATHER THAN STRUGGLE WITH A GTR AT 2200 HRS.

4. POST WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S INSTRUCTING OFFICE TICKETING USMC PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO YAOUNDE TO ISSUE TICKETS FOR ALL SEGMENTS OF THEIR TRAVEL,

REGARDLESS OF WHETHER RESERVATION DOUALA/YAOUNDE IS
CONFIRMED OR NOT. PLEASE ADVISE ACTION TAKEN.
SCOTT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 mar 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978DOUALA00154
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780111-0630
Format: TEL
From: DOUALA
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780377/aaaacmvm.tel
Line Count: 65
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 625574c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SY
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3355714
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNTICKETED MARINE TRAVEL - DOUALA/YAOUNDE
TAGS: ASEC, OTRA
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/625574c8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014